

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A transmitter, comprising:

a power amplifier; and

a predistortion linearizer including a diode capable
5 of generating a distorted signal which is reflected onto a
signal path and inputted into said power amplifier, wherein
said predistortion linearizer is located a predetermined
distance from the signal path, and said distorted signal
compensates for at least some of the nonlinear spurs
10 introduced by said power amplifier to an input signal
applied to the signal path and inputted into said power
amplifier such that said power amplifier generates a
compensated output signal.

15 2. The transmitter of Claim 1, wherein said
predistortion linearizer includes:

said diode;

a coupling circuit, coupled to said diode, capable of
introducing a relatively small amount of power from the
20 input signal into said diode and further capable of
reflecting the distorted signal generated by said diode
back onto the signal path and into said power amplifier;
and

a direct current adjustment circuit, coupled to said
25 diode, capable of adjusting the amount of direct current
inputted into said diode.

3. The transmitter of Claim 2, wherein said coupling circuit includes a microstrip having a predefined shape and located a predetermined distance from the signal path leading into said power amplifier.

4. The transmitter of Claim 2, wherein said diode is a Schottky diode.

5. The transmitter of Claim 2, wherein said coupling circuit and said direct current adjustment circuit are manually adjusted to optimize a shape of the distorted signal.

6. The transmitter of Claim 2, wherein said coupling circuit and said direct current adjustment circuit are automatically adjusted to optimize a shape of the distorted signal.

7. The transmitter of Claim 1, wherein said predistortion linearizer does not affect the signal path or the operation of said power amplifier.

8. The transmitter of Claim 1, wherein said transmitter is incorporated within a point-to-point communication system.

9. The transmitter of Claim 1, wherein said transmitter is implemented in a wireless system operating at or above 2 GHz.

5 10. A predistortion linearizer for use with a nonlinear device, said predistortion linearizer comprising a diode capable of generating a distorted signal which is reflected onto a signal path and inputted into the nonlinear device, wherein said predistortion linearizer is
10 located a predetermined distance from the signal path and said distorted signal compensates for at least some of the nonlinear spurs introduced by the nonlinear device to an input signal applied to the signal path and inputted into said nonlinear device such that said nonlinear device
15 outputs a compensated output signal.

11. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 10, wherein said predistortion linearizer includes:

said diode;

20 a coupling circuit, coupled to said diode, capable of introducing a relatively small amount of power from the input signal into said diode and further capable of reflecting the distorted signal generated by said diode back onto the signal path and into said nonlinear device;
25 and

a direct current adjustment circuit, coupled to said diode, capable of adjusting the amount of direct current inputted into said diode.

12. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 11, wherein
said coupling circuit includes a microstrip having a
predefined shape and located a predetermined distance from
the signal path leading into said nonlinear device.

13. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 11, wherein
said coupling circuit and said direct current adjustment
circuit are manually adjusted to optimize a shape of the
distorted signal.

14. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 11, wherein
said coupling circuit and said direct current adjustment
circuit are automatically adjusted to optimize a shape of
the distorted signal.

15. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 10, wherein
said diode is a Schottky diode.

16. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 10, wherein
the type of diode used depends on the frequency of the
input signal.

17. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 10, wherein
said predistortion linearizer does not affect the signal
path or the operation of said nonlinear device.

18. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 10, wherein said predistortion linearizer is incorporated within a transmitter operating at or above 2 GHz.

5 19. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 10, wherein said nonlinear device is a power amplifier or a mixer.

20. A method for linearizing a nonlinear device, said method comprising the steps of:

10 receiving, at the nonlinear device, an input signal on a signal path;

generating, using a diode, a distorted signal which is reflected onto the signal path and inputted into the nonlinear device; and

15 outputting, from the nonlinear device, a compensated signal, wherein said distorted signal compensates for at least some of the nonlinear spurs introduced to the input signal by the nonlinear device.

20 21. The method of Claim 20, wherein said step of generating a distorted signal includes:

introducing, using a coupling circuit, a relatively small amount of power into the diode from the input signal;

generating, using the diode, the distorted signal; and

25 reflecting, using the coupling circuit, the distorted signal back onto the signal path and into the nonlinear device, wherein said coupling circuit is located a predetermined distance from the nonlinear device.

22. The method of Claim 21, wherein said diode can generate the distorted signal that includes predetermined nonlinear spurs having phases and amplitudes which are in part a function of the amount of direct current inputted into said diode by a direct current adjustment circuit.

23. The method of Claim 22, wherein said coupling circuit includes a microstrip having a predefined shape and located a predetermined distance from the signal path leading into said nonlinear device.

24. The method of Claim 22, wherein said coupling circuit and said direct current adjustment circuit were manually adjusted to optimize a shape of the distorted signal.

25. The method of Claim 22, wherein said coupling circuit and said direct current adjustment circuit were automatically adjusted to optimize a shape of the distorted signal.

26. The method of Claim 20, wherein said diode is a Schottky diode.

27. The method of Claim 20, wherein the type of diode used depends on the frequency of the input signal.

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31. A predistortion linearizer for use with a nonlinear device, said predistortion linearizer comprising:

5 a coupling circuit capable of receiving a relatively small amount of power from an input signal on a signal path located a predetermined distance from said coupling circuit and connected to the nonlinear device;

10 a diode, coupled to said coupling circuit, capable of receiving the relatively small amount of power from the input signal;

15 a direct current adjustment circuit, coupled to said diode, capable of adjusting the amount of direct current inputted into said diode which is capable of generating a distorted signal; and

20 said coupling circuit further capable of reflecting the distorted signal generated by said diode back onto the signal path and into said nonlinear device, wherein said distorted signal compensates for at least some of the nonlinear spurs introduced by the nonlinear device to the input signal applied to the signal path and inputted into said nonlinear device such that said nonlinear device outputs a compensated output signal.

25 32. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 31, wherein said coupling circuit includes a microstrip having a predefined shape and located the predetermined distance from the signal path connected to said nonlinear device.

33. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 31, wherein the predetermined distance the coupling circuit is located from the nonlinear device can be tuned to compensate for the nonlinear spurs using metalized ceramic tabs or variable capacitors.

34. The predistortion linearizer of Claim 31, wherein said predistortion linearizer is placed in front of the nonlinear device.